



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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INTERIOR DEPARTMENT TO TEACH CONSERVATION TO AFRICAN STUDENTS

Ten African students from American universities will spend this summer in national parks and wildlife areas learning conservation principles, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall announced today.

Secretary Udall and Under Secretary of State Chester Bowles gave the students a sendoff today at the Interior Department. The students leave tomorrow for Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming-Montana-Idaho; Grand Teton National Park and the National Elk Wildlife Refuge, both in Wyoming; and other park and wildlife sites.

The trip will take about two weeks, with stops scheduled at State parks, historic sites and other areas protected for conservation purposes.

Secretary Udall explained that the journey is being financed by the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, Inc. He said the foundation is a nonprofit philanthropic organization established to promote education in the United States for young Africans who can learn in this country to cope with problems they probably will face in the future as leaders in their own emerging nations concerned with preserving natural resources.

Under Secretary Bowles joined Secretary Udall in praising the African-American Institute for its help in selecting the students from among some 3,000 Africans now enrolled in American colleges and universities. The Institute is under contract with the Federal Government to supervise the administration of many African scholarships.

The African Wildlife Leadership Foundation said it hopes to make this trip a pilot project for future conservation orientation tours for African students.

Secretary Udall pointed out that Africa's wildlife and park areas are vanishing at an accelerated pace. He said conditions resemble the days when American pioneers thought this country's forests and game were inexhaustible. Africa has an

opportunity to learn from America's mistakes in conservation, he said. He added that this Government wants to do everything possible in cooperating with private organizations, conservation-minded groups and individuals in helping African nations and other young countries to understand the problems and opportunities in the conservation of natural resources.

He told the students that President Kennedy is personally concerned with and has launched a program to save in the next few years all that America may ever be able to save in the open spaces needed to round out our park, wildlife and recreational areas.

The African Wildlife Leadership Foundation's trustees include Judge Russell Train of the United States Tax Court; Kermit Roosevelt, Maurice Stans, Edward Sweeney, Harold Coolidge and James Bugg.

The students, their home nations, universities and major courses of study include:

Howard University, Washington, D. C.--Aleck Chemponda, Tanganyika, government; Abose Damassa, Ethiopia, economics; Younus Mpagi, Uganda, electrical engineering; and Isaiah Onyemauwa Ogwuru, Nigeria, industrial engineering.

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts--Christian Ludger Ohiri, Nigeria, social sciences; Zacchaeus Olufemi Okurounmu, Nigeria, engineering; Emmanuel M. Boye, Ghana, electrical engineering; Ebenezer S. Klufio, Ghana, electrical engineering.

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York--Martin Anselm Oworen, Eastern Nigeria, business and public administration; Kwabena A. Awuku, Ghana, agriculture.

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